Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUJUMB 00971 171621Z

43
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 PC-15 DRC-01

OC-06 CCO-00 /201 W
---------- 129877
P 171525Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4056
INFO AMCONSUL BUKAVU PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMCONSUL KISANGANI
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUJUMBURA 0971

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, SREF, BY, CG
SUBJ: BURUNDI REFUGEES ATTACK FROM ZAIRE

REF: BUKAVU 210; KINSHASA 8&$6 (NOTAL)

1. IN APPARENTLY COORDINATED ATTACKS AT DAWN OCTOBER 16, BURUNDI REFUGEES FROM ZAIRE TRIED TO CROSS INTO BURUNDI AT AT LEAST THREE SEPARATE LOCATIONS, ONE GROUP ATTACKED 20 OR 30 KILOMETERS NORTH OF BUJUMBURA AT KIHONGA AND KIHUNGWE AND ANOTHER ATTACKED MUTUMBA, ABOUT SAME DISTANCE TO SOURTH OF CITY. THIRD GROUP, WHICH HAD INTENDED MAKE LAND CROSSING JUST NORTH OF LAKE TANGANIKA, WAS STOPPED BY ZAIROIS AUTHORITIES.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUJUMB 00971 171621Z

2. ALTHOUGH LOCAL RUMORS CLAIM ATTACKERS CAME FROM

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

TANZANIA, EMBASSY STRONGLY INCLINED CREDIT ALTERNATIVE REPORTS THAT, IN RUZIZI PLAIN AT LEAST, ATTACKERS CAME FROM AMONG BURUNDI REFUGEES IN ZAIRE. IT'S CONCEIVABLE, THOUGH UNLIKELY, THAT ATTACKERS SOUTH OF BUJUMBURA COULD HAVE INFILTRATED FROM TANZANIA WITHOUT BEING SPOTTED, BUT ACROSS-LAKE ORIGIN SEEMS MUCH MORE LIKELY, EVEN THOUGH SOME REPORTS INDICATE MUTUMBA ATTACKERS HAD PROCEEDED NORTH FROM RUMONGE AREA. ACCORDING ZAIRE EMBASSY SOURCE, REPORTS OF ZAIROIS AMONG ATTACKERS ARE RESULT OF BARUNDI REFUGEES CARRYING ZAIROIS IDENTITY CARDS.

3. DETAILS AVAILABLE TO DATE (NOT FULLY CONFIRMED): ATTACKERS ARMED PRIMARILY WITH MACHETES AND MAGIC. THOSE IN NORTH (ABOUT 60) KILLED SEVEN PERSONS AND BURNED A FEW HUTS. SOME OF PARTY THEN FLED BACK TO ZAIRE, OTHERS INTO BURUNDI HILLS. ABOUT DOZEN REPORTEDLY KILLED TO SOUTH. SEVERAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY AMONG DEAD. SOURCE CLOSE TO PRESIDENT CLAIMS BURUNDI FORCES WERE GIVEN RIGHT OF HOT PURSUIT BY ZAIRE AND CAPTURED A GROUP RETURNING ACROSS RUZIZI PLAIN. HE ALSO SAID ARMY CAPTURED ABOUT 35 IN HILLS NEAR PLAIN AND "ALL" OF ATTACKERS TO SOUTH.

4. GRB REACTION SO FAR SEEMS RELATIVELY MODERATE. ATTACKS NOT MENTIONED IN BURUNDI MEDIA. INFORMAL 11 P.M. CURFEW EVENING OCTOBER 16.
SEVERAL HUNDRED REFUGEES, REPORTEDLY BOTH FROM NORTH AND SOUTH, CAME INTO BUJUMBURA DURING DAY OCTOBER 16, BUT MEN AT LEAST REPORTEDLY SENT BACK SINCE. ZIARE EMBASSY OFFICER WHO VISITED KIHONGA-KIHUNGWE AREA EARLY OCTOBER 17 IN COMPANY HEAVILY ARMED BURUNDI MILITARY ESCORT SAYS THAT EVEN SO GRB OFFICIALS SEEMED POORLY INFORMED AS OF THAT TIME AND INCLINED OVER-ESTIMATE SEVERITY OF ATTACK.

5. COMMENT: IT QUITE LIKELY THAT THESE ATTACKS WILL HAVE NO IMMEDIATE SEQUEL. HOWEVER, THEY SEEM TO REPRESENT SOME DEGREE OF EXPANSION REFUGEE ORGANIZATION AND COORDINATION TO ZAIRE.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BUJUMB 00971 171621Z

YOST

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, INVASIONS, CASUALTIES, POLITICAL PRISONERS, BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BUJUMB00971
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS YOST
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BUJUMBURA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731027/aaaaatyi.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BUKAVU 210; KINSHASA 8&$6 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <25-Jan-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BURUNDI REFUGEES ATTACK FROM ZAIRE
TAGS: PINS, SREF, BY, CG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005